
RURAL DISTRICT OF GLENDALÉ.

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Annual Report for 1919.

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ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1919.

ACCORDING to the estimate of the Registrar General the civil population of Glendale is given as 7,738 for the year 1919.

Demobilisation went on more or less regularly during the whole year, and therefore the population would tend to be larger towards the latter part of the year.

Glendale is entirely agricultural, about one-half being arable and the rest moorland farms on the slopes of the Cheviots. There are no factories nor mines to pollute the atmosphere, the sub-soil is chiefly gravel and porous, and the rainfall is moderate. Being situated about the narrowest part of the British Isles Glendale is not visited in the summer months with the high temperature which often prevails in the Lowlands of Scotland and Midlands of England, nor yet the severe frosts in the winter which are common in those districts. When there are deep snowstorms in Durham, Yorkshire, and the Midlands we frequently have only a slight fall. The district is drained by the River Till and its tributaries, and well supplied with pure water chiefly from porphyry or whinstone formation. Lowick and Barmoor district of the Glendale Rural District differs from the rest in having a soil principally of clay with limestone deposits here and there. This part of the district is not too well supplied with water, especially Lowick Village, which has had an insufficient supply hitherto. In 1914 steps were taken to remedy this, but when war broke out all arrangements were arrested. At the end of 1919 a further effort is being made to obtain a sufficient supply, and it is hoped that 1920 will see it completed. The water supply is mostly from springs, but occasionally from wells of varying

depths, and on the whole the supply is constant. At a few places in the district the water supply is at an inconvenient distance from the houses, and this is often a hardship, especially in the winter season.

The drainage of the various villages in the district is satisfactory, with the exception of Lowick, already mentioned, and Milfield, where the water supply is not sufficiently ample during the summer for proper flushing. At the various farms in the district the drains are frequently inspected, and, if any defects from choked traps, etc., are detected, they are reported and rectified. In the Sanitary Inspector's Report a statement is made with regard to closet accommodation. Scavenging of Wooler, Lowick, and Wark is done by men having a yearly contract with the Council. There is a depot for house refuse, where whatever can be burned is so disposed of. Bye-laws should be adopted to enable the Council to enforce the proper disposal of soil from earth closets, privies, and ashpits in Wooler, which is not satisfactorily done at present. The Sanitary Inspector's Report also deals in detail with the sanitary inspection of the district, and also with regard to the slaughter-houses.

The number of deaths, including 12 transferable deaths inwards, was 122, comprising 50 males and 72 females, giving a rate of 15·76, which is high for Glendale and rather more than the previous year, which was 15·05. Deaths under one year of age amounted to 10, comprising 7 males and 3 females, and giving an infant mortality rate of 81·3, very much less than the previous year. Three of these deaths were due to premature birth.

For estimating the birth-rate the Registrar General gives the population as 8,061, which is intended to include all the elements of the population contributing to the birth and marriage rate. It consists, therefore, of the death-rate or civilian population plus all non-civilians enlisted from this country, whether serving at home or abroad. This non-civilian element has been distributed over all the districts in the country, in proportion to their estimated civilian population. The number of births was 128, giving a birth-rate of 15·87, almost the same as the death-rate.

Notifiable infectious diseases, with the exception of measles, were comparatively few. Three cases of diphtheria were notified. Two occurred at the same time in one house at a farm in the district, the other in Wooler, and were probably imported. The Council supplies diphtheria anti-toxin, and this is freely used. None of the cases were fatal. The cases of scarlet fever notified—eight in number—seem to have got the infection outside the district, as they were widely apart and at considerable intervals of time. One case was removed to the Isolation Hospital as no provision for nursing or isolation could be made at home. No “return” cases were noted. Two cases of poliomyelitis were notified in one family within a day of each other, both cases being specially reported at the time to the Ministry of Health. They have recovered, but a certain amount of paralysis of one leg still persists, and it is as yet too soon to determine whether the paralysis will be permanent. There was nothing to indicate how the disease was acquired. During the first three months of the year epidemic influenza of a severe type similar to the epidemic in the latter part of 1918 was very prevalent all over the district. Several of these cases resulted in pneumonia, which was generally fatal. Pneumonia caused 7 deaths, while influenza caused 17 deaths, giving a death-rate of 2·19 per 1,000. Of these 17 deaths 2 were males and 15 females. Of pulmonary tuberculosis there were 7 deaths, giving a rate of ·9. Measles appeared in April, and from July to the end of the year was prevalent. There were no cases of encephalitis lethargica, cerebro-spinal fever, malaria, dysentery, or trench fever. Most of the schools in the district were closed for varying periods in February and March owing to the prevalence of epidemic influenza, and during the latter months of the year owing to the prevalence of measles, whooping cough, and mumps. Three cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year. For some reason this disease is not always notified, and when a case proves fatal it is still very seldom, although more frequently than a few years ago, that a request is made to have the house disinfected. Disinfection is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector at the expense of the Council.

No vaccinations nor re-vaccinations were done during the year

by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Small-pox) Regulations, 1917. In 1902 a block of cottages in the district was converted into an isolation hospital primarily for small-pox, as it at that time was more or less prevalent all over England. During the year following one case of small-pox (imported) occurred in Wooler, and was removed to the hospital. Since then no case of small-pox has appeared in the district, and the Council, about 1905, decided to allow cases of other infectious diseases to be sent there. During 1919, as already stated, one case of scarlet fever was admitted.

With regard to housing in the district, it has been decided to erect 16 houses for the working classes in Wooler and 6 in Lowick. Many workmen's houses in the district are insanitary on account chiefly of damp walls and want of ventilation. This can be remedied in very many cases by improving the ventilation and paving the yards adjoining the houses. Many of the houses are too small, but quite a number with a kitchen and bedroom are large enough for an elderly couple whose family have grown up and got homes of their own. Several houses are too small for the size of the families occupying them, but as all the members of the family, except the mother or daughter who acts as housekeeper, spend their days in the open air, if they could be persuaded to keep the windows open at nights, these houses could be tolerated and be comparatively healthy until building materials could be more easily obtained and masons and other tradesmen connected with building could be more easily engaged. Further particulars regarding housing will be found in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

ALEXANDER DEY,

Medical Officer of Health.

6/4/20.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT,
GLENDALÉ RURAL DISTRICT,
for the Year ending December 31st, 1919.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE GLENDALÉ
 RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my report of the work done during the year 1919.

SCAVENGING, ETC.

The scavenging of the district has been carried out satisfactorily during the year.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

The slaughter houses have not been used so much as in normal times owing to the scarcity of fresh meat during the year, but they have been kept quite satisfactory as to cleanliness.

We have seven slaughter houses in the district, four in Wooler, two in Lowick, and one at Ford, but one in Wooler and the one at Ford have not been used as slaughter houses for the past few years.

One hundred and forty visits of inspection were made.

Three quarters of frozen beef were buried after being condemned as unfit for human food by the Medical Officer.

COWSHEDS, ETC.

I have made frequent inspections of the cowsheds in the district, and they have been fairly well attended to, neglecting to limewash being the chief fault.

Number of Cow Keepers ...	...	30
Number of Cows kept ...	...	88

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

We have only one lodging house in the district, which is at Lowick. There was a change of tenants in June, and the house was better attended to during the latter half of the year. It is a very poor house, but as it is the owner's intention to close it at an early date nothing further need be done.

DISINFECTIONS.

Nineteen rooms were disinfected during the year, also the Isolation Hospital. The disinfecting is done with Formalin lamps. Ten lots of bedding, etc., were brought in and disinfected at the Council's steam disinfecter.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

We had one case of scarlet fever in the Isolation Hospital during the year, and with the exception of the water supply going dry everything was satisfactory. A few minor repairs will be needed during the present year.

NEW HOUSES, ETC.

No new houses have been built during the year, but the five cottages at Brandon White House have been re-built, making them into very good cottages.

WORKSHOPS AND WORK-PLACES.

We have 55 workshops in the district, four of which are bake-houses. In the majority of these workshops only two or three workpeople are employed. Eighty-eight inspections were made, but no serious defects were found.

The chief workshops are:—

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	4
Cabinetmakers and Joiners, etc.	...	...	...	...	14
Dressmakers, Tailors, etc.	...	...	...	...	9
Boot Repairers	...	...	...	...	4
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	24
Total					55

HOUSING ACTS.

A summary of the work done under the Housing Acts is as follows:—

Houses inspected	...	...	...	...	101
Closing orders served	...	...	...	...	2
Houses closed	...	...	...	...	2

No notices have been served under Sec. 15 of the Housing and Town Planning Act, all notices served being under the Public Health Acts.

We are still experiencing great difficulty in getting repairs, etc., done owing to the high cost of labour and materials, and there are quite a lot of defects outstanding, but it is my intention to keep them before your notice with a view to having them abated.

NUISANCES, ETC.

The following is a list of nuisances and sanitary defects remedied during the year:—

Dampness to walls and floors	...	...	...	4
Windows provided or made to open	...	...	...	6
Privies converted to pail closets	...	...	...	15
Water supplies protected or improved	...	...	...	4
Defective drains remedied	...	...	...	21
Closet accommodation provided	...	...	...	6
Dry middens provided	...	...	...	4
New drains provided	...	...	...	6
Spouting repaired	...	...	...	14
Ashpits emptied	...	...	...	17

Several of the above were abated upon my request to the person responsible, but 140 Informal and 94 Statutory Notices were served, the number of defects dealt with being 185.

In conclusion I hope that during the present year we are able to revise our Building Bye-laws and to make them applicable to the whole of the district, also that we shall be able to adopt the Model Bye-laws relating to the sanitary supervision of Tents, Sheds and Vans.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ARTHUR GREATHEAD,

Inspector of Nuisances.

GLENDALE RURAL.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1919.

CAUSES OF DEATH.						Males.	Females.
All causes ...	...	...	...	...	...	50	72
Influenza ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	15
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	2	5
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	...	...	...	4	4
Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Organic Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	10	9
Bronchitis...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	2	5
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...		1
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	...	...	...	...	...		1
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...		1
Congenital Debility, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	6	3
Violence, apart from Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	2	
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Other Defined Diseases...	...	...	...	...	...	15	22
Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	...	1	3
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age	...	...	...	...	...	7	3
Total Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
TOTAL BIRTHS	...	...	...	...	...	68	60
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	62	57
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	6	3
POPULATION	{ For Birth-rate ...					8,061	
	{ For Death-rate ...					7,738	

TABLE XV.—Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the year 1919.
(Provisional figures. Populations estimated to the middle of 1919 have been used for the purposes of this Table.)

BIRTH-RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULA- TION.	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 CIVILIAN POPULATION,							RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS.		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.*					
	A. Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox.	Measles	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 Years).	Total Deaths under One Year.	Deaths in Public Institutions.	Certified Causes.	Inquest Cases.	Uncertified Causes of Death.	
England and Wales	18.5	13.8	0.01	0.00	0.10	0.03	0.07	0.13	0.47	9.59	89	23.9	92.5	6.2	1.3
6 Great Towns, including Lon- don (Census Population ex- ceeding 50,000)	19.0	13.8	0.01	0.00	0.13	0.04	0.07	0.14	0.45	12.24	93	29.2	92.3	6.9	0.8
148 Smaller Towns (Census Popu- lations 20,000—50,000)	18.3	12.6	0.01	0.00	0.10	0.03	0.08	0.12	0.39	8.67	90	16.6	93.6	4.9	1.5
London	18.3	13.4	0.01	0.00	0.08	0.03	0.05	0.18	0.47	16.22	85	44.7	91.2	8.6	0.2

* Non-civilians are included in these figures for England and Wales but not for other areas.

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